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Research Program



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Sam Flood, Acting Director
Illinois Department of Natural
Resources

Paul Vehlow
Federal Aid Coordinator

John E. Buhnerkempe
Chief, Division of Wildlife
Resources

Results of the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-Resident Hunter Harvest Survey



Stacy A. Lischka
Program Leader and Principal Investigator
William L. Anderson,
Principal Investigator
Human Dimensions Research Program
Illinois Natural History Survey

Prepared by
Stacy A. Lischka,
William L. Anderson,
and Linda K. Campbell



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^a WMU = Wildlife Management Unit

^b AR = Administrative Region

RESULTS OF THE 2006-2007 ILLINOIS NON-RESIDENT HUNTER HARVEST SURVEY

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

WILDLIFE HARVEST AND HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH PROGRAM

STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROJECT NUMBER: W-112-R-16
STUDY 101
JOB NO. 101.7

Prepared by
Stacy A. Lischka, William L. Anderson, and Linda K. Campbell
Illinois Natural History Survey
Champaign, IL
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Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Sam Flood, Acting Director
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Resources

John E. Buhnerkempe, Chief
Division of Wildlife

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ABSTRACT

A random sample of 2,000 potential non-resident hunters was selected from among purchasers of 2006 Illinois non-resident hunting licenses and habitat stamps. A 6-page questionnaire was successfully mailed to 1,960 of the 2,000 individuals. We received 1,254 returned questionnaires, 1,249 of which were usable, for a 64% response rate. Non-residents purchased 38,900 hunting licenses in Illinois in 2006-2007. Non-residents harvested more doves, deer and gray squirrels than any other game species, though low sample sizes for many species prevented accurate estimation of harvest. Twenty-nine non-resident hunters reported hunting on controlled hunting areas or shooting preserves in Illinois. These hunters most frequently hunted pheasants, quail and Chuckar partridge. Non-residents most commonly used the IDNR website or phone system to purchase their hunting licenses, habitat stamps and permits. Non-resident hunters reported little difficulty accessing hunting land in Illinois. Twenty percent of non-residents leased land to hunt in Illinois and 37% hired an outfitter to access land. One-fifth of respondents had hunted upland game in a state other than Illinois during 2006-2007. Non-residents most commonly hunted upland game in Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Missouri. Respondents reported having access to private hunting land as their primary motivation for hunting upland game outside of Illinois.

OBJECTIVE

To survey non-resident hunters (18-24 game animal categories) periodically to determine their activities and harvests in 18-24 game animal hunting categories in Illinois, as well as their characteristics and attitudes toward specific wildlife issues.

METHODS

A systematic, random sample of 2,000 addresses were selected from non-resident hunting license and state habitat stamp purchaser data (1,000 addresses of non-resident hunting license purchasers and 1,000 addresses of non-resident habitat stamp purchasers). Methods for survey questionnaire mailings and follow-up reminders followed those of Miller et al. (1999).

Recipients were mailed a self-administered, 6-page questionnaire (Appendix A), a cover letter (Appendix B) and postage-paid return envelope on 22 February, 2007. A thank you/reminder postcard was sent to non-respondents on 15 March, 2007 (Appendix C). On 29 March, 2007, a second questionnaire, cover letter (Appendix D), and return envelope were mailed to non-respondents. The second questionnaire was followed on 17 April, 2007 with a postcard thank you/reminder. Data were coded, entered, and analyzed using SPSS 14.0 (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA).

Estimates of the number of hunters ($Hunt_{sp}$), days hunting ($Days_{sp}$), and harvest ($Harv_{sp}$) by species were made as follows:

$$Hunt_{sp} = \frac{L_t}{n} Hunt_r,$$

$$Days_{sp} = \frac{L_t}{n} Days_r,$$

$$Harv_{sp} = \frac{L_t}{n} Harv_r,$$

where L_t = total number of non-resident hunting licenses sold in 2006-2007, n = number of respondents to 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest survey, $Hunt_r$ = number of respondents to 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest survey who reported hunting for each species, $Harv_r$ = total harvest of each species reported by respondents to 2006-2007 Non-

resident Illinois Hunter Harvest survey, and $Days_r$ = total number of days spent hunting each species reported by respondents to 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest survey.

Estimated number of hunters, harvest and days hunting were used to calculate the percent of license holders pursuing each species (Lic_{sp}), average daily ($\overline{Bag}_{sp,day}$) and season bags ($\overline{Bag}_{sp,season}$), and average days hunting by species (\overline{Days}_{sp}) as follows:

$$Lic_{sp} = \frac{Hunt_{sp}}{L_t} \times 100,$$

$$\overline{Bag}_{sp,day} = \frac{Harv_{sp}}{Days_{sp}},$$

$$\overline{Bag}_{sp,season} = \frac{Harv_{sp}}{Hunt_{sp}},$$

$$\overline{Days}_{sp} = \frac{Days_{sp}}{Hunt_{sp}}.$$

Confidence intervals were also calculated for species harvests, hunters, and days hunting as follows:

$$95\% \text{ CI } [Hunt_{sp}] = \pm 2L_t \sqrt{\frac{pq}{n}},$$

$$95\% \text{ CI } [Days_{sp}] = \pm \frac{1.96s}{\sqrt{Hunt_r}},$$

$$95\% \text{ CI } [Harv_{sp}] = \pm 2L_t \left(\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \left(\frac{L_t - Hunt_r}{L_t} \right),$$

where p = proportion of n who hunted referent species, $q = (1-p)$, and s = standard deviation of

$\overline{Bag}_{sp,season}$.

A summary of survey results is presented in Appendix A. Season dates, bag limits, and shooting hours for the 2006-2007 hunting seasons are presented in Appendix E, maps of wildlife management units and administrative regions in Illinois are presented in Appendices F and G.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Survey Response

Of the original 2,000 surveys sent, 40 were undeliverable, leaving a usable sample of 1,960 addresses. A total of 1,254 respondents returned questionnaires, 1,249 of which were valid, for a 64% response rate. Nearly all respondents were male (99%). Respondents had a mean age of 45 years ($n = 1,244$, range: 15-87) as of October 1, 2006. Respondents resided in 39 of the 50 states of the U.S. (Table 1). Most respondents (60%) currently reside in rural areas or suburban areas (16%). Few hunters (7%) own a dog for upland game hunting.

Harvest and Hunting Activity

Of the 1,249 respondents to the Non-resident Hunter Harvest survey, 1,176 (94%) reported hunting in Illinois during the 2006-2007 season. Non-resident hunting license sales for the 2006-2007 hunting season was 38,900. This figure was used to calculate harvest and hunting activity estimates. Harvest estimates represent game species harvested by non-resident hunters and do not include harvests by residents. Harvest estimates for resident hunters can be found in Lischka et al. (2007). Except for statewide estimates (Table 2), data for big game species (i.e., white-tailed deer and wild turkey) are not included in this report.

Statewide estimates of harvest for the 24 game animal categories included in this survey are presented in Table 2, and confidence intervals are provided for 13 of these categories in

Table 3. Harvest estimates for these same 13 categories are summarized by wildlife management unit (WMU) and administrative region in Tables 4-22. Results suggest statewide harvest by non-residents during the 2006-2007 season was highest for doves, deer, and gray squirrels. Non-resident hunters participated most often in archery deer hunting, firearm deer hunting, and muzzleloader deer hunting. Sample size for most species (rabbit, quail, pheasant, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, fall shotgun turkey, fall archery turkey, raccoon, coyote and opossum) was very small, and limits the confidence placed on estimates of harvest, effort and hunters for these species. Several species (gray partridge, woodcock, snipe, rail, red fox and gray fox) had no non-resident participation.

Few non-resident hunters ($n = 29$) hunted on controlled hunting areas or shooting preserves while in Illinois. Of those hunters who did hunt in these areas, they most frequently hunted and harvested pheasants, quail and Chuckar partridge (Table 23). The controlled hunting facilities were most commonly located in Pike (31%), Sangamon (10%), Perry (7%) and Schuyler (7%) counties in Illinois (Table 24).

License Purchases

A plurality (48%) of respondents purchased their Illinois hunting license or habitat stamp through the IDNR website. Another 33% purchased their license or habitat stamp over the phone. Few non-resident hunters purchased their licenses or stamps at chain retail stores (11%), independent retail stores (4%) or IDNR central or regional offices (3%). Nearly all (93%) non-resident hunters purchased their licenses and stamps without problems. Of the 7% of respondents who did report problems with purchase, most related to confusion about the correct permits, licenses and stamps required to hunt, especially for deer hunting and habitat stamps;

incorrect or incomplete licenses received through the mail from phone purchases; and difficulty accessing the phone system due to high volume.

Access to Hunting Land in Illinois

A slight plurality (32%) non-resident hunters in Illinois hunted on land they hired an outfitter to access. Another 30% of non-resident hunters hunted on land owned by a member of their family or a friend. Most non-resident hunters reported no difficulty finding access to hunting lands for all species in Illinois (Table 25). One-fifth of non-resident hunters (20%) leased land to hunt in Illinois. Of those respondents who did report leasing land, deer (60%), turkeys (13%) and small game (6%) were the most commonly pursued species on leased land. Another 9% of respondents were able to hunt any species on land they leased. Hunters who leased land paid an average of \$1,341 per person ($n = 153$, range: \$100-\$12,000) and \$5,583 per party ($n = 161$, range:\$200-30,000) to lease hunting land. Over 1/3 of non-resident hunters (37%) hired an outfitter to hunt in Illinois. Of hunters who did hire an outfitter, most used the outfitter to hunt deer (90%). Hunters who hired an outfitter paid an average of \$2,089 ($n = 415$, range: \$0-\$16,000) for services provided.

Upland Game Hunting outside Illinois

We were interested in learning how many non-resident hunters also hunted upland game outside of Illinois and why they do so. Twenty percent of respondents indicated hunting upland game outside Illinois (including in their state of residence). Of those who hunted upland game in other states, most hunted in Pennsylvania (11%), Michigan (8%), or Missouri (7%; Table 26). Hunters most frequently hunted doves (23%), rabbits (20%) and pheasants (18%) in other states.

A plurality of hunters (37%) hunted upland game in other states on private land on which they had permission to hunt. Another 27% of respondents reported hunting on public land in other states and 22% hunted on land they owned.

Hunters gave several reasons for hunting upland game in states other than Illinois, with the most frequent being access to private hunting lands (23%) and having friends and family who hunt (20%) in the state in which they hunted. Hunters also reported having access to public hunting land (12%) in the state they hunted.

LITERATURE CITED

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- Miller, C.A., L.K. Campbell and K.D. Caldwell. 1999. 1998-99 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey Report. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-112-R-8, Job 1, Job Completion Report 77pg.

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1. State of residence for respondents to the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey. ($n = 1,249$)

State	<i>n</i>	%	State	<i>n</i>	%	State	<i>n</i>	%
Alabama	73	5.8%	Louisiana	43	3.4%	Ohio	13	1.0%
Alaska	3	0.2%	Maryland	13	1.0%	Oklahoma	3	0.2%
Arizona	5	0.4%	Massachusetts	8	0.6%	Pennsylvania	152	12.2%
Arkansas	44	3.5%	Michigan	72	5.8%	South Carolina	21	1.7%
California	5	0.4%	Minnesota	14	1.1%	South Dakota	1	0.1%
Colorado	2	0.2%	Mississippi	77	6.2%	Tennessee	71	5.7%
Connecticut	7	0.6%	Missouri	73	5.8%	Texas	19	1.5%
Delaware	1	0.1%	Nebraska	2	0.2%	Utah	1	0.1%
Florida	67	5.4%	New Hampshire	10	0.8%	Vermont	29	2.3%
Georgia	95	7.6%	New Jersey	45	3.6%	Virginia	24	1.9%
Indiana	48	3.8%	New Mexico	1	0.1%	Washington	2	0.2%
Iowa	6	0.5%	New York	47	3.8%	West Virginia	14	1.1%
Kentucky	21	1.7%	North Carolina	66	5.3%	Wisconsin	51	4.1%

Table 2. Summary of statewide hunter participation, harvest, and days hunted from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 1,249$).

Species	n	Total Estimated Hunters ($Hunt_{sp}$)	Percent License Sales ^a (Lic_{sp})	Average Bag		Total Estimated Harvest ($Harv_{sp}$)	Days Hunting	
				Daily ($\overline{Bag}_{sp,day}$)	Season ($\overline{Bag}_{sp,season}$)		Average (\overline{Days}_{sp})	Total Estimated ($Days_{sp}$)
Rabbit	8	249	0.64%	0.54	0.87	218	1.63	405
Quail	8	249	0.64%	1.18	4.13	1,027	3.50	871
Pheasant	7	218	0.56%	1.30	1.86	405	1.43	311
Dove	9	280	0.72%	8.71	36.78	10,301	4.22	1,183
Gray Partridge	0	-	---	---	---	-	---	-
Woodcock	0	-	---	---	---	-	---	-
Snipe	0	-	---	---	---	-	---	-
Rail	0	-	---	---	---	-	---	-
Crow	1	31	0.08%	5.00	25.00	778	5.00	156
Ground Hog	0	0	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0
Fox Squirrel	14	436	1.12%	1.30	3.43	1,494	2.64	1,152
Gray Squirrel	9	280	0.72%	2.35	6.78	1,898	2.89	809
Turkey-Spring	41	1,276	3.28%	0.17	0.56	716	3.22	4,108
Turkey-Fall Shotgun	1	31	0.08%	0.00	0.00	0	1.00	31
Turkey-Fall Archery	8	249	0.64%	0.02	0.25	62	11.50	2,863
Deer-Regular Firearm	234	7,283	18.73%	0.19	0.62	4,513	3.25	23,684
Deer-Muzzleloader	53	1,649	4.24%	0.18	0.49	809	2.74	4,513
Deer-Archery	1089	33,892	87.19%	0.06	0.60	20,260	9.47	320,961
Deer-Late winter antlerless	28	871	2.24%	0.23	0.54	467	2.32	2,023
Raccoon	3	93	0.24%	0.15	2.33	218	16.00	1,494
Red Fox	0	-	---	---	---	-	---	-
Gray Fox	0	-	---	---	---	-	---	-
Coyote	25	778	2.00%	0.09	0.48	373	5.12	3,984
Opossum	1	31	0.08%	0.50	1.00	31	2.00	62

^a Sum across species > 100% because many respondents reported hunting >1 species.

Table 3. Estimated number of non-resident hunters and harvest in Illinois \pm 95% confidence intervals, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 1,249$).

Species	n	Total Estimated Hunters			Estimated Average Season Bag			Total Estimated Harvest		
Rabbit	8	249	\pm	175	0.87	\pm	0.78	218	\pm	242
Quail	8	249	\pm	175	4.13	\pm	3.62	1,027	\pm	1,122
Pheasant	7	218	\pm	164	1.86	\pm	0.90	405	\pm	352
Dove	9	280	\pm	186	36.78	\pm	24.59	10,301	\pm	9,523
Gray Partridge	0	-	\pm	-	---	\pm	---	-	\pm	-
Woodcock	0	-	\pm	-	---	\pm	---	-	\pm	-
Fox Squirrel	14	436	\pm	232	3.43	\pm	1.49	1,494	\pm	1,012
Gray Squirrel	9	280	\pm	186	6.78	\pm	5.30	1,898	\pm	1,913
Raccoon	3	93	\pm	108	2.33	\pm	1.73	218	\pm	286
Red Fox	0	-	\pm	-	---	\pm	0.00	-	\pm	-
Gray Fox	0	-	\pm	-	---	\pm	0.00	-	\pm	-
Coyote	25	778	\pm	308	0.48	\pm	0.23	373	\pm	242
Opossum	1	31	\pm	62	1.00	\pm	0.00	31	\pm	44

Table 4. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for rabbits, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 8$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1	31	12.50	.50	1.00	31	62
Northeast Moraine	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	1	31	12.50	1.00	1.00	31	31
Mississippi Border-South	1	31	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	62
Western Prairie/Forest	2	62	25.00	1.00	1.50	93	93
Central Sand Prairie	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	1	31	12.50	1.00	2.00	62	62
Southern Plain	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	1	31	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	62
Shawnee Hills	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	1	31	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	31

Table 5. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for quail, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 8$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	1	31	12.50	1.00	1.00	31	31
Mississippi Border-South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Prairie/Forest	2	62	25.00	1.00	2.00	124	124
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	1	31	12.50	3.00	6.00	187	62
Shawnee Hills	1	31	12.50	0.58	7.00	218	373
Unknown	3	93	37.50	1.67	5.00	467	280

Table 6. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for pheasant, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 7$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Prairie/Forest	2	62	28.57	1.50	1.50	93	62
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	4	124	57.14	1.29	2.25	280	218
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	1	31	14.29	1.00	1.00	31	31

Table 7. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for doves from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 9$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	1	31	11.11	11.00	55.00	1712	156
Mississippi Border-South	4	124	44.44	8.64	23.75	2957	342
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Plain	1	31	11.11	8.00	16.00	498	62
Wabash Border	2	62	22.22	9.17	82.50	5135	560
Shawnee Hills	1	31	11.11	0.00	0.00	0	62
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 8. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for fox squirrels, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 14$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	2	62	14.29	2.75	5.50	342	124
Mississippi Border-South	2	62	14.29	1.13	4.50	280	249
Western Prairie/Forest	1	31	7.14	0.00	0.00	0	31
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	2	62	14.29	2.33	3.50	218	93
Southern Plain	1	31	7.14	1.50	3.00	93	62
Wabash Border	4	124	28.57	1.33	4.00	498	373
Shawnee Hills	2	62	14.29	0.29	1.00	62	218
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 9. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for gray squirrels, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 9$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	1	31	11.11	2.00	2.00	62	31
Mississippi Border-South	1	31	11.11	3.43	24.00	747	218
Western Prairie/Forest	1	31	11.11	0.00	0.00	0	31
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	2	62	22.22	1.00	1.50	93	93
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	3	93	33.33	2.44	7.33	685	280
Shawnee Hills	1	31	11.11	2.00	10.00	311	156
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 10. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for raccoon, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 3$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	1	31	33.33	2.00	4.00	124	62
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	1	31	33.33	0.06	2.00	62	1.089
Unknown	1	31	33.33	0.09	1.00	31	342

Table 11. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for coyote, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 25$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	2	62	8.00	0.06	0.50	31	560
Northeast Moraine	1	31	4.00	0.25	2.00	62	249
Mississippi Border-North	1	31	4.00	0.10	1.00	31	311
Mississippi Border-South	8	249	32.00	0.25	0.63	156	622
Western Prairie/Forest	3	93	12.00	0.04	0.33	31	716
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	3	93	12.00	0.00	0.00	0	747
Southern Plain	2	62	8.00	0.09	0.50	31	342
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	1	31	4.00	1.00	1.00	31	31
Unknown	4	124	16.00	0.00	0.00	0	405

Table 12. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Wildlife Management Unit in Illinois for opossum, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 1$).

Wildlife Management Units	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	1	31	100.00	0.50	1.00	31	62
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 13. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for rabbit, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 8$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	1	31	12.50	0.50	1.00	31	62
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	1	31	12.50	1.00	2.00	62	62
Region 4	3	93	37.50	1.00	1.33	124	124
Region 5	2	62	25.00	0.00	0.00	0	124
Unknown	1	31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	31

Table 14. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for quail, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 8$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	3	93	60.00	1.00	1.67	158	156
Region 5	2	62	40.00	0.93	6.50	405	436
Unknown	3	93	60.00	1.67	5.00	467	280

Table 15. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for pheasant, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 7$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 2	1	31	16.67	1.00	1.00	31	31
Region 3	2	62	33.33	1.25	2.50	156	124
Region 4	3	93	50.00	1.50	2.00	187	124
Region 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	1	31	16.67	1.00	1.00	31	31

Table 16. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for doves, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 9$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	5	156	27.78	9.38	30.00	4,668	498
Region 5	4	124	22.22	8.23	45.25	5,633	685
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 17. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for fox squirrels, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 14$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	2	62	14.29	2.33	3.50	218	93
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	5	156	35.71	1.54	4.00	622	405
Region 5	7	218	50.00	1.00	3.00	654	654
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 18. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for gray squirrel, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 9$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	2	62	22.22	1.00	1.50	93	93
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	3	93	33.33	2.89	8.67	809	280
Region 5	4	124	44.44	2.29	8.00	996	436
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 19. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for raccoons, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 3$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	1	31	50.00	2.00	4.00	124	62
Region 5	1	31	50.00	0.06	2.00	62	1089
Unknown	1	31	50.00	0.09	1.00	31	342

Table 20. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for coyote, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 25$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	4	124	16.00	0.07	0.50	62	903
Region 2	1	31	4.00	0.25	2.00	62	249
Region 3	1	31	4.00	0.00	0.00	0	93
Region 4	12	373	48.00	0.10	0.50	187	1961
Region 5	3	93	12.00	0.17	0.67	62	373
Unknown	4	124	16.00	0.00	0.00	0	405

Table 21. Summary of hunting effort and harvest by Administrative Region in Illinois for opossum, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 1$).

Administrative Region	n	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
				Daily	Season		
Region 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	1	31	100.00	0.50	1.00	31	62
Region 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 22. Distribution of hunting effort and harvest among non-resident hunters in 2006, from the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
RABBIT	---		0	50.0
	1-5	100.0	1-5	50.0
	6-10	---	6-10	---
	11-14	---	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	---
	20-24	---	20-24	---
	25+	---	25+	---
QUAIL	---		0	37.7
	1-5	75.0	1-5	25.0
	6-10	12.5	6-10	25.0
	11-14	12.5	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	12.5
	20-24	---	20-24	---
	25+	---	25+	---
PHEASANT	---		0	---
	1-5	100.0	1-5	100.0
	6-10	---	6-10	---
	11-14	---	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	---
	20-24	---	20-24	---
	25+	---	25+	---
DOVE	---		0	11.1
	1-5	88.9	1-5	---
	6-10	---	6-10	11.1
	11-14	---	11-14	---
	15-19	11.1	15-19	11.1
	20-24	---	20-24	22.3
	25+	---	25+	44.4
FOX SQUIRREL	---		0	21.4
	1-5	85.7	1-5	50.0
	6-10	14.3	6-10	28.6
	11-14	---	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	---
	20-24	---	20-24	---
	25+	---	25+	---
GRAY SQUIRREL	---		0	22.2
	1-5	77.8	1-5	44.5
	6-10	22.2	6-10	11.1
	11-14	---	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	11.1
	20-24	---	20-24	11.1
	25+	---	25+	---

Table 22. Continued.

	Days Hunting		Animal Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
RACCOON	---		0	---
	1-5	33.3	1-5	100.0
	6-10	---	6-10	---
	11-14	33.4	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	---
	20-24	---	20-24	---
	25+	33.3	25+	---
COYOTE	---		0	56.0
	1-5	60.0	1-5	44.0
	6-10	32.0	6-10	---
	11-14	4.0	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	---
	20-24	4.0	20-24	---
	25+	---	25+	---
OPOSSUM	---		0	---
	1-5	100.0	1-5	100.0
	6-10	---	6-10	---
	11-14	---	11-14	---
	15-19	---	15-19	---
	20-24	---	20-24	---
	25+	---	25+	---

Table 23. Days hunted and harvest on licensed shooting preserves or controlled hunting areas in Illinois between February 2006 and January 2007 for the following species by respondents to the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey.

Species	<i>n</i>	Number of Days Hunted	\bar{x} (days)	Number Harvested	\bar{x} (harvest)
Quail	6	13	2.17	63	10.50
Pheasant	15	34	2.27	111	7.40
Doves	1	1	1.00	15	15.00
Gray (Hungarian) Partridge	2	5	2.50	11	5.50
Chuckar Partridge	4	10	2.50	37	9.25
Turkey	1	5	5.00	1	1.00

Table 24. Counties in which hunters hunted in controlled hunting areas or shooting preserves, as reported by respondents to the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 29$).

County	<i>n</i>	%
Adams	1	3.4%
Clinton	1	3.4%
Henderson	1	3.4%
Perry	2	6.8%
Pike	9	31.3%
Sangamon	3	10.2%
Schuyler	2	6.8%
Unknown	10	34.5%

Table 25. Difficulty encountered in finding a place to hunt in the specified hunting season. Data as reported by respondents to the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey.

Season	<i>n</i>	Very difficult		Somewhat difficult		Not at all difficult	
		<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Deer hunting	1,174	105	8.9%	31	26.6%	757	64.5%
Small game hunting	40	4	10.0%	11	27.5%	25	62.5%
Upland bird hunting	41	5	12.2%	7	17.1%	29	70.7%
Turkey hunting	65	11	16.9%	18	27.7%	36	55.4%
Dove hunting	22	4	18.2%	6	27.3%	12	54.5%
Waterfowl hunting	39	3	7.7%	12	30.8%	24	61.5%
Furbearer hunting	23	3	13.0%	4	17.4%	16	69.6%

Table 26. Other states in which respondents to the 2006-2007 Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey reported hunting upland game, including state of residence ($n = 322$).

State	<i>n</i>	%	State	<i>n</i>	%	State	<i>n</i>	%
Alabama	16	5.0%	Maine	3	0.9%	North Dakota	3	0.9%
Alaska	2	0.6%	Maryland	4	1.2%	Ohio	2	0.6%
Arizona	1	0.3%	Massachusetts	1	0.3%	Oklahoma	1	0.3%
Arkansas	8	2.5%	Michigan	24	7.5%	Pennsylvania	36	11.2%
California	2	0.6%	Minnesota	5	1.6%	South Carolina	7	2.2%
Colorado	1	0.3%	Mississippi	13	4.0%	South Dakota	5	1.6%
Connecticut	2	0.6%	Missouri	23	7.1%	Tennessee	12	3.7%
Florida	10	3.1%	Montana	3	0.9%	Texas	6	1.9%
Georgia	18	5.6%	Nebraska	4	1.2%	Vermont	6	1.9%
Indiana	14	4.3%	Nevada	1	0.3%	Virginia	7	2.2%
Iowa	4	1.2%	New Hampshire	3	0.9%	West Virginia	6	1.9%
Kansas	7	2.2%	New Jersey	7	2.2%	Wisconsin	15	4.7%
Kentucky	9	2.8%	New York	13	4.0%	Wyoming	1	0.3%
Louisiana	7	2.2%	North Carolina	7	2.2%	Mexico	3	0.9%

Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey: 2006-2007 Seasons Results Summary



Your comments are welcome! Please write them on a separate sheet of paper to receive proper attention.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!
All of your responses will be kept confidential.
Please return this survey in the postage-paid return envelope provided.



Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife Resources
and
Illinois Natural History Survey



The Department of Natural Resources is requesting disclosure of information that is necessary to accomplish the statutory purpose as outlined under the Illinois Compiled Statutes, The Wildlife Code, Chapter 520. Disclosure of information is voluntary. This study is funded by the federal Wildlife Restoration Fund through your purchase of hunting arms and ammunition.

Hunting Activity and Harvest in Illinois. Please provide the following information to allow IDNR biologists to monitor game species harvest and conserve wildlife populations in Illinois.

1. Did you hunt any wildlife species in Illinois between February 2006 and January 2007?

n = 1,249

94.2% Yes

5.8% No (*Please skip to question 3.*)

2. Please report your hunting effort and harvest in Illinois for the following species during the last hunting season (February 1, 2006-January 31, 2007). Include only game harvested and days you personally hunted in Illinois. Count only game you retrieved; do not count animals you were not able to retrieve or animals that were trapped. **Do not count days hunted or harvest on licensed shooting preserves or controlled hunting areas.** Count part of 1 day as 1 day.

Species	<i>n</i>	Average Number of Days Hunted	Average Number Harvested	Illinois County Hunted <u>Most</u> Often
Rabbit	8	1.63	0.87	
Quail	8	3.50	4.13	
Pheasant	7	1.43	1.86	
Dove	9	4.22	36.78	
Gray (Hungarian) Partridge	0	0.0	0.0	
Woodcock	0	0.0	0.0	
Snipe	0	0.0	0.0	
Rail	0	0.0	0.0	
Crow	1	5.00	25.00	
Ground Hog (Woodchuck)	0	0.0	0.0	
Gray Squirrel	14	2.89	6.78	
Fox Squirrel	9	2.64	3.43	
Turkey – Spring	41	3.22	0.56	
Turkey – Fall Shotgun	1	1.00	0.00	
Turkey – Fall Archery	8	11.50	0.25	
Deer – Regular Firearm Season	234	3.25	0.62	
Deer – Muzzleloader-Only Season	53	2.74	0.49	
Deer – Archery Season	1,089	9.47	0.60	
Deer – Late Winter Firearm Season	28	2.32	0.54	
Raccoon	3	16.00	2.33	
Red Fox	00	0.0	0.0	
Gray Fox	00	0.0	0.0	
Coyote	25	5.12	0.48	
Opossum	1	2.00	1.00	

3. Did you hunt on a licensed shooting preserve or controlled hunting area in Illinois between February 2006 and January 2007? ***n* = 1,229**

4.4% Yes

95.6% No (*Please skip to question 5.*)

4. Please report your hunting effort and harvest on licensed shooting preserves or controlled hunting areas in Illinois between February 2006 and January 2007 for the following species. Include only game harvested and days you personally hunted in Illinois. Count only game you retrieved; do not count animals you were not able to retrieve or animals that were trapped. Count part of 1 day as 1 day.

Species	<i>n</i>	Average Number of Days Hunted	Average Number Harvested	Illinois County Hunted <u>Most</u> Often
Quail	6	2.17	10.50	See Table 24
Pheasant	15	2.27	7.40	See Table 24
Doves	1	1.00	15.00	See Table 24
Gray (Hungarian) Partridge	2	2.50	5.50	See Table 24
Chuckar Partridge	4	2.50	9.25	See Table 24
Turkey	1	5.00	1.00	See Table 24

5. Do you own a dog which you use to hunt upland game (pheasants, quail, partridge, etc.)?
(*Please check one.*) ***n* = 1,203**

6.9% Yes

93.1% No

6. Where did you purchase your 2006 hunting license and/or habitat stamp? (*Please check one.*)
***n* = 1,240**

2.7% DNR regional or central office

10.8% Chain retail store (e.g. Wal-mart, Dick's Sporting Goods)

3.5% Independent retail store (e.g. local bait shop, local grocery store)

48.1% IDNR website

32.7% Over the phone

2.2% Other (*Please indicate.*_____)

7. Did you encounter any problems purchasing your 2006 hunting license or habitat stamp?
(*Please check one.*) ***n* = 1,249**

7.2% Yes

92.8% No (*Please skip to question 9.*)

8. Please describe any problems you encountered while purchasing your hunting license or habitat stamp in the space below.

***n* = 89**

9. Who owned the land on which you hunted during 2006-2007? (*Please check all that apply.*)
***n* = 1,362**

12.9% I hunted on public land.

2.8% I hunted on private land I own.

30.3% I hunted on private land owned by a friend or member of my family.

5.4% I hunted on private land owned by a person I did not previously know.

16.2% I hunted on private land I leased.

31.6% I hunted on private land I hired an outfitter to access.

0.9% Other (*Please indicate.*_____)

10. How difficult was it for you to find a place to hunt in Illinois during each of the following seasons? (*Please check one for each season.*)

Season	<i>n</i>	Very difficult	Somewhat difficult	Not at all difficult	I did not hunt these species.
a. Deer hunting	1,212	8.7%	25.9%	63.4%	2.0%
b. Small game hunting (squirrel, rabbit, etc.)	666	0.6%	1.7%	3.8%	94.0%
c. Upland bird hunting (pheasant, partridge, quail, etc.)	665	0.8%	1.1%	4.4%	93.8%
d. Turkey hunting	680	1.6%	2.6%	5.4%	90.3%
e. Dove hunting	660	0.6%	0.9%	1.8%	96.7%
f. Waterfowl hunting	664	0.5%	1.8%	3.6%	94.1%
g. Furbearer hunting (fox, raccoon, etc.)	644	0.5%	0.6%	2.5%	96.4%

11. Did you lease any land on which you hunted in Illinois during 2006-2007? Please do not consider licensed shooting preserves or commercial hunt clubs. ***n* = 1,237**

19.5% Yes

80.5% No (*Please skip to question 14.*)

12. If you did lease land to hunt in Illinois, which species did your lease give you access to hunt?
(Please check all that apply.) **n = 386**

59.9% Deer

13.5% Turkeys

6.2% Small game (squirrel, rabbit, etc.)

2.9% Upland birds (pheasant, partridge, quail, etc.)

2.6% Doves

3.4% Waterfowl

2.9% Furbearers (fox, raccoon, etc.)

8.8% All species I wanted to hunt

0.0% Other (Please indicate. _____)

13. If you did lease land to hunt in Illinois, how much money did you pay in leasing fees, in total? If you leased land individually, as opposed to part of a group of hunters, skip part b.

a. I personally paid **Ave. \$1,341.00**, to lease hunting land in Illinois. **n = 152**

b. My hunting party paid **Ave. \$5,583.00**, in total, to lease hunting land in Illinois.
n = 161

14. Did you contract with an outfitter in Illinois during 2006-2007? Please do not consider licensed shooting preserves or commercial hunt clubs. (Please check one.) **n = 1,222**

37.2% Yes

62.8% No (Please skip to question 17.)

15. If you did hire an outfitter to hunt in Illinois, which species did your outfitting services allow you to hunt? (Please check all that apply.) **n = 491**

90.0% Deer

5.3% Turkeys

0.6% Small game (squirrel, rabbit, etc.)

0.8% Upland birds (pheasant, partridge, quail, etc.)

0.2% Doves

1.4% Waterfowl

0.8% Furbearers (fox, raccoon, etc.)

0.4% All species I wanted to hunt

0.4% Other (Please indicate. _____)

16. If you paid outfitting fees to hunt in Illinois in 2006-2007, how much did you pay in outfitting fees, in total? If you shared costs with other hunters, please indicate only the amount you personally paid.

I paid **Ave. \$2,089.00**, for outfitting services in Illinois. **n = 415**

Upland Game Hunting outside Illinois. To better serve Illinois hunters, we are interested to learn how many hunters hunt upland game in other states and why they do so. Please answer the following questions about upland game hunting in your home state and any other states in which you hunted upland game to help increase upland hunting opportunities in Illinois.

17. Did you hunt upland game (partridge, quail, woodcock, rabbits, doves or grouse) in a state other than Illinois in 2006-2007? *(Please check one.)* **n = 1,217**
 20.3% Yes
 79.7% No *(Please skip to question 22.)*

18. In which other states did you hunt upland game in 2006-2007? *(Please indicate.)*

See Table 26

19. For which upland game species did you hunt in another state? *(Please check all that apply.)*
n = 545

17.8% Pheasants	22.6% Doves
5.7% Partridge	12.1% Ruffed grouse
14.5% Quail	1.1% Sharptail grouse
20.0% Rabbits	0.4% Prairie chicken
5.1% Woodcock	0.7% Other <i>(Please indicate. _____)</i>

20. On what type of land did you hunt upland game in another state? *(Please check all that apply.)* **n = 443**
 26.6% Public land
 22.4% Private land I own
 37.3% Private land on which I had permission to hunt
 9.3% Private land which I leased to hunt
 3.6% Private land leased by the state to provide open hunting access
 0.9% Other *(Please indicate. _____)*

21. Which of the following items are the **most important** reasons you hunted upland game in your another state during 2006-2007? *(Please check one.)* **n = 403**

- 7.0% I expected to harvest more animals in the state in which I hunted.
 2.5% I was not able to hunt my preferred species in Illinois.
 5.0% I was not able to hunt any upland game in Illinois.
 20.1% I have friends and/or family that hunt in the state in which I hunted.
 5.0% I am a former resident of the state in which I hunted.
 22.8% I had access to private hunting lands in the state in which I hunted.
 12.4% I had access to public (state or federal) hunting lands in the state in which I hunted.
 7.4% Non-resident licenses were available and affordable in the state in which I hunted.
 6.5% The upland game populations are larger in the state in which I hunted.
 11.4% Other *(Please indicate. _____)*

Information about you. The following questions provide important information to help us understand more about the people who hunt in Illinois. Please tell us about yourself by completing the following questions. All responses will be kept confidential.

22. As of October 1, 2006, what was your age? **Ave. 45.4** *n* = 1,244

23. Please indicate your state of residence. **See Table 1**

24. What is your approximate annual household income? (*Please check one.*) *n* = 1,171

- 1.4% Less than \$20,000 per year
- 9.7% \$20,000 to \$39,999 per year
- 19.2% \$40,000 to \$59,999 per year
- 20.1% \$60,000 to \$79,999 per year
- 16.1% \$80,000 to \$99,999 per year
- 19.3% \$100,000 to \$149,999 per year
- 14.2% Over \$150,000 per year

25. Are you 99.6% male or 0.4% female? (*Please check one.*) *n* = 1,249

26. How would you describe the area where you currently live? (*Please check one.*) *n* = 1,239

- 14.0% Rural setting, on a farm
- 33.6% Rural setting, not on a farm
- 12.3% Rural subdivision
- 15.7% Suburban area at the edge of a town or city
- 10.7% Within a small town (Population less than 25,000)
- 6.5% Within an urban area (Population between 25,000 and 100,000)
- 7.3% Within a metropolitan area (Population greater than 100,000)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE!

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources receives federal assistance and therefore must comply with federal anti-discrimination laws. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, the Illinois Constitution, Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended, and the U.S. Constitution, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, (217) 782-7616 or the Officer of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Appendix B. Cover letter sent with first mailing of 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey.



**ILLINOIS NATURAL
HISTORY SURVEY**



February 22, 2007

Dear Illinois Hunter,

I am writing to ask for your help in a study of hunters who come to Illinois to hunt large and small game. This study, jointly conducted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Natural History Survey, is an effort to learn about your hunting activities in Illinois and the factors that motivate hunters to take to Illinois forests and fields to hunt many varieties of game. Results of this study will guide wildlife management decisions to optimize hunting opportunity, maintain or improve hunter satisfaction, and allow for effective management of Illinois's game populations.

You are part of a random sample of non-resident hunters we have selected to provide information about your hunting activities during the 2006-2007 hunting seasons in Illinois. Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire, even if you did not hunt in Illinois during the 2006-2007 season. Your responses are completely confidential and will not be associated in any way with your name or address. While your response to this questionnaire and any of the questions is completely voluntary, you can help us effectively manage wildlife and hunting in Illinois by sharing your experiences and views. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Please return the questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided.

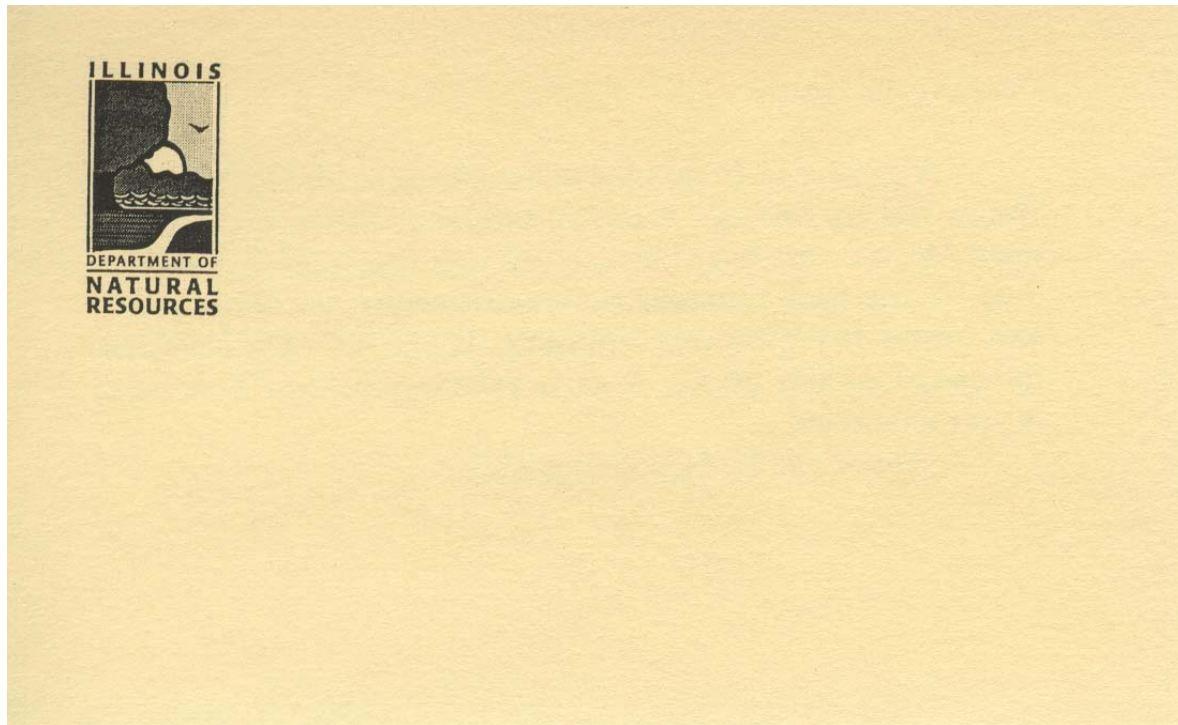
If you have any questions or comments about this study, we would be happy to talk with you. Please feel free to call Linda Campbell, Survey Administrator, at (217) 244-5121 or write her at the address listed below. You may access the results of this and other studies of wildlife use in Illinois at <http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/cwpe/hd/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/>.

Thank you very much for helping with this important study.

Sincerely,

Stacy A. Lischka
Human Dimensions Specialist

Appendix C. Reminder post card sent to non-respondents to the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey.



Dear Illinois Hunter,

You have been selected to participate in the Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey. A survey questionnaire was recently mailed to you. We have not received your questionnaire at this time. **If you have returned the questionnaire, we thank you and please disregard this reminder. If you have not returned the questionnaire, please do so as soon as possible.** Your input is very important!

Thank you for your cooperation.

Appendix D. Cover letter sent with the second mailing of the 2006-2007 Illinois Non-resident Hunter Harvest Survey.



ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY



March 22, 2007

Dear Illinois Hunter,

A few weeks ago, we sent you a questionnaire asking about your hunting activities in Illinois during 2006-2007. To the best of our knowledge, the questionnaire has not yet been returned. If this letter and your completed questionnaire have crossed in the mail, please accept our sincere thanks for your participation in this study!

Your views are crucially important, even if you did not hunt in Illinois during 2006-2007. The comments of hunters who have already responded show that Illinois hunters desire different types of hunting experiences and take to the field for many different reasons. The results of this study will help Illinois Department of Natural Resources biologists make informed decisions about how to manage wildlife and hunting in Illinois.

If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire. The enclosed questionnaire is a duplicate copy of the one you received earlier. Your responses are completely confidential and will not be associated in any way with your name or address. While your response to this questionnaire and any of the questions is completely voluntary, you can help us effectively manage game populations in Illinois by sharing your experiences and views. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Please return the questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided.

If you have any questions or comments about this study, we would be happy to talk with you. Please feel free to call Linda Campbell, Survey Administrator, at (217) 244-5121 or write her at the address listed below. You may access the results of this and other studies of wildlife use in Illinois at <http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/cwpe/hd/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/>.

Thank you very much for helping with this important study.

Sincerely,

Stacy A. Lischka
Human Dimensions Specialist

Appendix E. Season dates, bag limits and shooting hours for 2006-2007 hunting seasons in Illinois.

2006-2007 Season Dates and Limits Information				
SMALL GAME				
SPECIES	DATES (inclusive) and ZONES	HOURS	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Rabbit (Cottontail & Swamp)	Nov. 4, 2006 - Jan. 8, 2007 (North) Nov. 4, 2006 - Jan. 22, 2007 (South)	Sunrise to sunset	4	10 ^a
Cock Pheasant	Nov. 4, 2006 - Jan. 8, 2007 (North) Nov. 4, 2006 - Jan. 15, 2007 (South)		2	6 ^a
Hungarian (Gray) Partridge			2	6 ^a
Quail (Bobwhite)			8	20 ^a
Squirrel (Fox and Gray)	Aug. 1 - Feb. 15, 2007 (Statewide) Closed Nov. 17-19 and Nov. 30- Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	5	10 ^a
Woodchuck (Groundhog)	June 1, 2006 - March 31, 2007. Closed Nov. 17-19; Nov. 30- Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	Sunrise to sunset	No Limit	
DEER & TURKEY				
SPECIES	DATES (inclusive) and ZONES	HOURS	LIMIT	
Firearm Deer (Handgun, Muzzleloader, & Shotgun)	Nov. 17-19; Nov. 30 - Dec. 3, 2006	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	One deer per firearm permit ^f	
Deer (Muzzleloading rifles only)	Dec. 8-10, 2006 (also allowed Nov. 30 - Dec. 3)		One deer per muzzle-loading rifle permit ^f	
Special CWD Deer Season	Jan. 12-14, 2007		One deer per valid deer permit ^h	
Late-Winter Antlerless Deer (Handgun, Muzzleloader, & Shotgun)	Jan. 12-14, 2007		One antlerless deer per permit	
Deer (Archery in counties with a firearm season and west of Rt. 47 in Kane Co.)	Oct. 1 - Nov. 16, Nov. 20 - Nov. 29, Dec. 4, 2006 - Jan. 11, 2007	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One deer per archery permit ^f	
Deer (Archery in Cook, DuPage, Kane [east of Route 47] and Lake counties)	Oct. 1, 2006 - Jan. 11, 2007			
Youth Firearm Deer Season	Oct. 7-8, 2006	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	One antlerless deer	
Youth Turkey Season	Mar. 31 - April 1, 2007 (South); April 7-8, 2007 (North)	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One gobbler or bearded hen	
Turkey (Spring Shotgun or Archery)	April 9 - May 10, 2007 ^b (South) April 16 - May 17, 2007 ^b (North)	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One gobbler or bearded hen per permit, maximum of 3	
Turkey (Fall Shotgun Season)	Oct. 21 - Oct. 29, 2006	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	One turkey per permit, maximum of 2	
Turkey (Fall Archery)	Oct. 1 - Nov. 16, Nov. 20 - Nov. 29, Dec. 4, 2006 - Jan. 11, 2007	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One turkey per permit, maximum of 2	
MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS				
SPECIES	DATES and ZONES	HOURS	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 21; Nov. 4-12, 2006	Sunrise to sunset	15	30
Teal	Sept. 9-24, 2006	Sunrise to sunset	4	8
Early Canada Goose ^c	Sept. 1-15, 2006	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	5g	10
			2g	4
Rail (Sora & Virginia Only)	Sept. 9 - Nov. 17, 2006	Sunrise to sunset	25	25
Common Snipe	Sept. 9 - Dec. 24, 2006	Sunrise to sunset	8	16
Woodcock	Oct. 21 - Dec. 4, 2006	Sunrise to sunset	3	6
Crow	Oct. 15, 2006 - Feb. 28, 2007 (Closed during gun deer seasons)	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	No Limit	
The season dates for Migratory Waterfowl seasons that occur after October 1 will be available in September. See 2006-2007 Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations.				
FURBEARERS - HUNTING				
SPECIES	DATES (inclusive) and ZONES	HOURS	LIMIT	
Raccoon and Opossum	Nov. 5, 2006 - Feb. 10, 2007 (North); Nov. 10, 2006 - Feb. 15, 2007 (South) Closed Nov. 17, 18 and through 6 p.m. Nov. 19 and closed Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 and through 6 p.m. Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	Unrestricted Except Nov. 5 (North) and Nov. 10 (South) Opens at sunrise	No Limit	
Fox (Red and Gray)	Nov. 10, 2006 - Jan. 31, 2007 (Statewide). Closed Nov. 17, 18 and through 6 p.m. Nov. 19 and closed Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 and through 6 p.m. Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	Unrestricted Except Nov. 10 Opens at sunrise	No Limit	
Coyote ^e and Striped Skunk	Year round (Statewide). Closed Nov. 17, 18 and through 6 p.m. Nov. 19 and closed Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 and through 6 p.m. Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting ^{d,e}	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hr. after sunset; open 24 hours during Nov. 10, 2006-Feb. 15, 2007 ^{d,e}	No Limit	
TRAPPING				
SPECIES	DATES (inclusive) and ZONES	HOURS	LIMIT	
Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel, Mink, Muskrat, Fox (Red and Gray), Coyote, Badger	Nov. 5, 2006 - Jan. 20, 2007 (North) Nov. 10, 2006 - Jan. 25, 2007 (South)	Unrestricted except opening days start at sunrise and closing days end at sunset	No Limit except for badger, which is limited to two per season in the north zone and one per season in the south zone	
Beaver	Nov. 5, 2006 - March 31, 2007 (North) Nov. 10, 2006 - March 31, 2007 (South)			
Woodchuck (Groundhog)	June 1 - Sept. 30 (Statewide)			

^a On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily bag limit.

^b South — 1st season—April 9-13; 2nd season—April 14-19; 3rd season—April 20-25; 4th season—April 26 - May 2; 5th season—May 3-10

North — 1st season—April 16-20; 2nd season—April 21-26; 3rd season—April 27 - May 2; 4th season—May 3-9; 5th season—May 10-17

^c No permits required for September Canada goose seasons. See page 3 for zone information.

^d During the Archery Deer Season bow hunting hours for coyote, striped skunk, raccoon, opossum, red fox and gray fox will be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

^e Hunters with unfilled firearm deer permits may take coyotes during firearm deer season by shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader or handgun from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

^f No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than 2 antlered deer during a year, including the archery, muzzleloader, and firearm seasons. For the purpose of this bag limit, deer seasons are considered to be in the same year if their opening dates are within the same 12-month period that begins July 1.

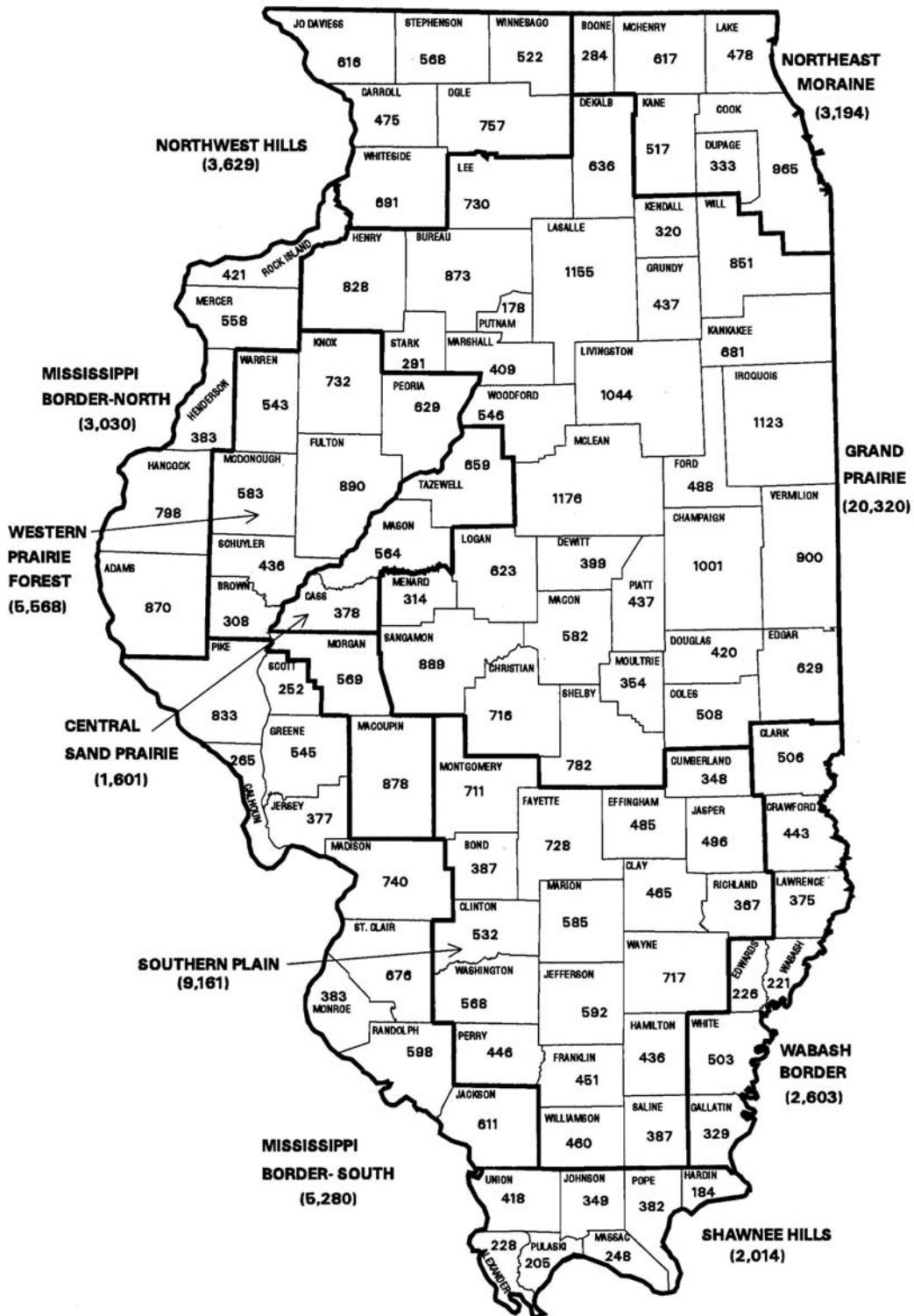
^g Daily bag limit is 5 in Northeast Canada Goose Zone and 2 in Southern Zone, and that portion of the North and Central Zones outside the Northeast Canada Goose Zone.

^h Antlered Deer bag limit does not apply to this season.



Appendix F. Map of IDNR Wildlife Management Units in Illinois.

Wildlife management units in Illinois (square miles in parentheses).



Appendix G. Map of IDNR administrative regions for wildlife management in Illinois.

Administrative regions in Illinois.

